8. Inadequate pest control. Buds of flowers which are infested tieh thrip, aphids, caterpillars or beetles will drop. Insecticides are needed to combat these pests. To protect from fungus infection a fungicide must be applied prior to fungus attack. A combination insecticide-fungicide spray is best for control of these two.

The subject of bud drop is like the weather; there is much conversation about it but little constructive work is done about it. Why not use the above check list to find out why your flower buds are dropping?

(This not only applies to Hibiscus but to all other plants as well. There are a few of us that will grow other plants than Hibiscus, believe it or not.)

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MIST PROPAGATION - Basic Principle

In order to understand mist propagation, it is important to know the basic principle.

When a fine mist is produced, the atmosphere in the propagation house and around the cuttings maintains a high relative humidity. This, in turn, naturally reduces the rate of transpiration of water from the cutting. However, with the high humidity in the propagating house, even if it would be 100 per cent, there still would be a certain amount of transpiration in the cuttings if they were not covered with a fine film of water, the temperature in the spaces within the leaf would be higher than the surrounding air. This is due to the fact that the light absorbed by the leaf changes into heat within the leaf, then the vapor pressure within the leaf becomes higher than that in the atmosphere, causing transporation.

When the leaf surfaces are kept wet, as happens with proper automatic mist propagation, the temperature inside the leaf tissue is kept down, eliminating

practically all transpiration. This is understandable as when water continuously evaporates from the leaf, evaporative cooling is actually attained. This continuous film of water also tends to wash disease spores off the cuttings. With this basic principle in mind, it is easy to recognize the importance of installing the proper automatic misting equipment. This basic principle was expoained in the early work of mist propagation done at Cornell University by Prof. Robert W. Langhams.

(This is part of an article which appeared in the Florest Exchange, Florest Review, Southern Florist and Nurseryman, and American Hurseryman publications.)

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MY SECOND LOVE

Love! The mightiest force the world has ever, or ever will know.

For many years I searched for perfect love, never dreaming I would actually find it. Then one day I found my wife and knew that I had found a new and different world, a world filled with new beauty and excitement. This was, and is still, my first love.

Five years ago to my bewildered amazement I fell in love for the second time. With another woman? No, my friends, with the beautiful and exotic flower that never ceases to give me a spine tingling thrill of excitement and joy every day I awake and behold a fresh and glorious blossom.

Yes, my friends, the flower of all flowers - Hibiscus.

- Tommy Viers.

P.S. I am married to the Hibiscus also.

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If you are careless enough your car will last a lifetime.